

Name: _____ Date: _____

The French Revolution

Q1. Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Ans. _____

Q2. How was the system of Estates in France society organized?

Ans. _____

Q3. Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.

Ans. _____

The French Revolution

Q1. Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Ans. The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution. These spread from France to the rest of Europe during the nineteenth century, where feudal systems were abolished. Colonised peoples reworked the idea of freedom from bondage into their movements to create a sovereign nation state. Tipu Sultan and Rammohan Roy are two examples of individuals who responded to the ideas coming from revolutionary France.

Q2. How was the system of Estates in France society organized?

Ans. French society in the eighteenth century was divided into three estates:
First Estate: Clergy (Clergy were the group of persons invested with special functions in the church)

Second Estate: Nobility

Third Estate: It was further divided into three categories.

- i. Big businessmen, merchants, court officials, lawyers etc.
- ii. Peasants and artisans
- iii. Small peasants, landless labour, servants

Q3. Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.

Ans. The message of universal rights was beset with contradictions. Not all citizens, however, had the right to vote. Only men above 25 years of age who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourer's wage were given the status of active citizens, that is, they were entitled to vote. The remaining men and all women were classed as passive citizens. To qualify as an elector and then as a member of the Assembly, a man had to belong to the highest bracket of taxpayers.